

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph spanning pages 18-19 of the specification with the following new paragraph:

The K⁺-containing buffer used in the examples set forth below is a HEPES buffer to which potassium has also been added (5 mM KCl, 4 mM NaHCO₃, 5 mM HEPES, 134 mM NaCl, 2.3 mM CaCl₂, and 5 mM glucose; pH 7.3 - 7.5, preferably 7.4), and is also referred to as “regular” or “stock” buffer. The K⁺-free buffer used in the examples is a HEPES buffer without potassium (4 mM NaHCO₃, 5 mM HEPES, 134 mM NaCl, 2.3 mM CaCl₂, and 5 mM glucose; pH 6.6 - 7.0, preferably 6.87-8).